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The
STORY OF
OLD
FALMOUTH

By
James Otis



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The Smith

FACTOR FIRST CHURCH IN WILMINGTON FROM HIS WIFE, 1764.

PIONEER TOWNS OF AMERICA

THE STORY OF
OLD FALMOUTH

BY
JAMES OTIS

ILLUSTRATED

NEW YORK:
THOMAS Y. CROWELL & CO.
PUBLISHERS

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NOTICE.

THE purpose of the publishers in presenting a series of books to be known as the "Pioneer Towns" of our country, is to give the local history of the early settlements in the United States, with all the detail which can be gathered from authentic or private records, to the end that a complete account may be had of the beginning and the growth of each town or locality which can be called a pioneer in the settlement of the several States.

The "Story of Old Falmouth" well illustrates the scope of the work. That section of Maine, afterward known as Portland, which was called Falmouth, is described from the coming of the first white man until it was subdivided into the flourishing cities and towns by which the present city of Portland is surrounded. In this particular case it became necessary to incorporate with the history of Falmouth that of Cape Elizabeth,

since the story of one is intimately connected with that of the other, and while known by distinctive names were much the same as a single settlement.

In a similar manner are the other sections of the State treated ; the story of the Kennebec or Penobscot Rivers comprising the early history of the principal towns on their banks. The "Story of Pemaquid" is the second of the series, and will be issued at an early date.

These histories are intended both for the home and school libraries, and have been arranged with special reference to their use as reading-books in schools of all grades above the fourth.

Much care has been exercised to verify by standard authorities all the subject matter used ; and no license has been taken with facts, in order to render the work more entertaining from a story-telling point of view.

Mr. James Otis, author of many well-known and favorably received books for young people ; has prepared the stories of Maine, using for his guidance the histories of Williamson, Sewell, Willis, and the famous "Smith and Deane's Journal."

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THE STORY OF OLD FALMOUTH.

THE FIRST SETTLEMENT.

ONCE upon a time that portion of the State of Maine now called Portland, Deering, Stroudwater, Westbrook, Cape Elizabeth, South Portland, Falmouth, and the islands of Casco Bay, formed one large tract of land known as Falmouth; and to-day we refer to it as Old Falmouth to distinguish it from that town at present bearing the same name.

What we now speak of as Cumberland County, in the State of Maine, was, in 1625, a wilderness, with here and there a small Indian settlement, and, so far as is known, never a white man had set foot upon it until Christopher Leavett came. He set out from England early

in the year 1623, and landed at what is now called the Isles of Shoals, sailing from there eastward, with two boats and ten men, to what is now known as the town of Boothbay. On returning he entered Casco Bay in search of a place where he might make for himself a home.

King James of England, who claimed all this section of North America which we speak of as New England, had, under date of May 5, 1623, given to Master Leavett, or perhaps sold to him, six thousand acres of land anywhere east of the Piscataqua River; and it was to take possession of his new property that Christopher Leavett sailed from England shortly after the twenty-sixth day of June in that same year.

Twelve months previous to this fifth day of May, 1623, the Council of New England had granted to Sir Ferdinando Gorges a certain lot of land extending on the coast adjoining Massachusetts Bay ten miles to the eastward, and thirty miles into the country. He was also made governor of this land, as, being the owner, he naturally would be, and received from

the Council of New England instructions as to how to proceed in building up a settlement.

Why this is set down here will appear after it has been shown what Master Leavett did when he sailed into Casco Bay in search of a place where he might make himself a home. His movements are well known, because he himself wrote an account of his voyage from Old England to New England, the original volume of which can be found in the collections of the New York Historical Society, and a copy of it in those of the Maine Historical Society.

In describing Casco Bay, Master Leavett speaks of four islands lying therein which formed a commodious harbor; on one of these, which he declares the Indians called "Quack," and which he renamed York, he decided to found his home. It is believed by all who have studied the matter carefully that it was on Great Hog Island that Master Leavett made his plantation. Here he was visited by the Indians, who were exceedingly friendly with him.

THE FIRST HOUSE.

The house of this settler was built during the winter of 1623 and 1624. Shortly afterward he was visited by Robert Gorges, son of Sir Ferdinando, of whom mention has just been made. Gorges sailed from Massachusetts Bay in a ship called "The Swan," bringing with him a commission as Governor, in which was named as one of the Councillors, Master Leavett himself; but it appears that this gentleman did not consider the king's commission very honorable or profitable; for, early in the spring of 1624, he set sail for England, after having been visited by several chiefs, or sagamores, who came to urge that he remain in the country with them. He explained that he had left his wife in England, and it would be necessary for him to go back to get her. With this they were satisfied, assuring him that he and his family would be welcome, for the Indians were exceedingly friendly with the first white men who came to this country.

Now, in the book which Master Leavett wrote, he states that he left ten of his men on this plantation of York, and set sail for home ; but no further information can be had of him or them. Because there was but little opportunity for them to go away, the ten men are supposed to have remained in or about Casco Bay until four years later. At that time Richmond's Island, at the mouth of Spurwink River, which must be considered as a part of Old Falmouth, was settled by Walter Bagnall, who came with but one companion, a servant or assistant, known only as John P——.

It may be well to remember that Boston was not settled until three years after Walter Bagnall built his house on Richmond's Island.

RICHMOND'S ISLAND.

This settler had no real claim to the land, but was what in these days would be called a "squatter"; that is to say, one who builds a house upon land to which he has no title.

From what was written at the time by those who had settled at Plymouth, or along the Massachusetts coast, it is known that fishing-vessels from those shores frequently made harbor in Casco Bay, or behind Richmond's Island, which at that time, it must be remembered, had no name. Probably by means of these Master Bagnall appealed to the people of Massachusetts Bay, asking them to recognize him as the owner of the island, because he had settled there.

Finally the Council of New England gave to this "squatter" a title to the land; but, by that time Master Bagnall was dead.

He was killed on the 3d of October, in the year 1631, by an Indian chief whose name was Squidraset, and who had visited the island, as did many of the Indians from the country round about, to trade furs for goods which the settler had brought with him. It thus appears that Master Bagnall had come to this section of the country simply to trade with the savages, and not to make a plantation.

There is no record as to what became of John P——; and none of those who wrote concerning the murder of the trader seem to have given any heed to this servant or assistant, whichever he might have been.

In August of the next year, Governor Winthrop, of the Massachusetts colony, sent a small party of men in an open boat to seek out the Indian who had committed the murder; but Squidraset had gone immediately to his home after having killed Bagnall, leaving on the island another chief known as Black Will of Nahant. This Indian is spoken of as Duke William, Poquanum, and Black Will. By the last name he is referred to in the records of the Salem Court of Massachusetts, where it is shown that he sold the promontory of Nahant to Thomas Dexter for a suit of clothes. And him Governor Winthrop's men hanged without making many inquiries, probably thinking that their purpose would be accomplished if any Indian was killed. Thus it was that the red men in this section of the

country first had cause for complaint against white people.

SPURWINK.

In 1629, that is to say one year after Master Bagnall occupied Richmond's Island, we are told that one "Richard Bradshaw settled upon the mainland at Spurwink, and twelve months later Richard Tucker occupied the same clearing, which it is claimed he purchased from Bradshaw."

Master Tucker had as partner George Cleeves, who came from Plymouth, England, the same year that the purchase of Bradshaw's land was made; and here these two, Tucker and Cleeves, traded with the Indians, while at the same time they carried on the business of farming and fishing.

Now, on the first of December in the year 1631, Robert Trelawney and Moses Goodyear, merchants in Plymouth, England, obtained a grant of land from the President and Council of Plymouth, which was described after this fashion:

“ All those lands lying along the sea coast eastward, between the land before granted, to the land of the said Captain Thomas Cammock at Black Point, and the Bay and River of Casco ; together with free liberty to and for the said Robert Trelawney and Moses Goodyear to fowl and fish, and stages, kayes, and places for taking, saving and preserving of fish, to erect, make and maintain, and use in, upon and near the island, commonly called Richmond’s Island . . . paying therefore yearly forever unto the President and Council for every one hundred acres of said land in use, twelve pence lawful money of England.”

The consideration made was “ that the said Robert Trelawney, Moses Goodyear, and their associates have adventured and expended great sums of money in the discovery of the coasts and harbors of those parts, and are minded to undergo a further charge in settling a plantation on the mainland.”

John Winter, also of Plymouth, was appointed agent to manage this grant of land, which they speak of as “ a plantation ;” and this, together with the farm building of Cleeves and Tucker, was what might be called the first permanent settlement made within the limits of old Falmouth.

In order that what follows may be better understood, it is necessary to set down here

in as few words as possible the troubles into which Cleeves and Tucker were plunged.

CASCO NECK.

No sooner were these settlements well established than a quarrel arose as to the ownership of the land; and Agent Winter set before the Council of New England the claims of his employers in such an able manner that the two farmers were forced to leave their homes and seek new abiding places, which were found on what was then called Casco Neck, now known as the city of Portland. It was described by Cleeves, when seeking to gain for himself legal claim upon the land, as "this neck which was first known by the name of Machigonne, being a neck of land which was in no man's possession or occupation, and therefore, I seized upon it as my own inheritance, by virtue of a royal proclamation of our late sovereign, King James of blessed memory, by which he freely gave unto every subject of his which should transport himself over

into this country, upon his own charge, for himself and for every person that he should so transport, one hundred and fifty acres of land."

Cleeves further declares that he continued the occupation from year to year under this possession without interruption or demand of any; after some time, being "desirous to enlarge his limits in a lawful way, he addressed himself to Sir Fredinando Gorges, the proprietor of this Province, and obtained, for a sum of money and other considerations, a warrantable lease of enlargement." . . .

This new plantation of Cleeves and Tucker has been known by various names, such as Cleeves's Neck, Munjoy's Neck, Casco, Falmouth, and the town and city of Portland.

Now, it must be understood that the agent, Winter, had made good the claim of his employers that they owned Richmond's Island and the mainland nearby called Spurwink.

Thus were two permanent settlements really begun within the limits of the old town of Falmouth.

THE FIRST CLERGYMAN.

It was not until 1636, when Agent Winter went to England and brought back some cattle, and afterwards bought eight oxen from Massachusetts Bay, that there were any cows or oxen in this section of the country. The settlers, however, had many goats and hogs.

Two years afterward six donkeys were brought to Richmond's Island from one of the Cape Verde Islands. In that same year the Bark Richmond was built, which vessel plied for many years between England and Casco Bay.

From this time on several vessels were built either at the Island, or at the mouth of the Spurwink River.

It was in 1636 that a clergyman was sent out from England by the owners of the plantation, in reply to the request made by one of the agents of the property, who wrote in these words: "But above all I earnestly request you for a religious, able minister, for it is most

A PLATT OF MUNJOY'S NECK.

by
Phineas Jones & John East,
1729.
Taken to show the extent of the
Munjoy property on the Neck

1. Bayley's house.
2. P. Hodgekins' house
3. Mr. Lawrence's house *
4. Old Barn.*
5. Burying place.
6. Old Meeting house *
7. Munjoy's house *
8. Runnet of Water.
9. Fort Loyall.*
10. Major Moody's house, }
Site of Cleve's house }

*Previous to 1690



pitiful to behold what a most heathen life we live.”

This minister was a young man by the name of Richard Gibson, who was to receive a salary of twenty-five pounds a year.

In telling the story of Old Falmouth it is not necessary to set down when this or that man came out from England to try his fortunes in the new world, because too much space would be taken up with such uninteresting reading. It is enough to say that the wilderness round about was being converted with reasonable rapidity into farms and plantations. Meanwhile the Indians, remembering well the fate of Black Will, and perhaps being cheated by Agent Winter in his dealings, for among other occupations he kept a store on Richmond's Island, were beginning to display hatred for the white people, although continuing to have dealings with them.

There were at that time settlements at Saco, at Scarborough, to the eastward of the Kennebec and of the Piscataqua, and around Pemaquid.

THE TOWN OF FALMOUTH.

It was not until 1659 that the limits of the town of Falmouth were defined by the General Court of Massachusetts through the Commissioners sent out by that body, to "run the lines between Falmouth, Saco, and Scarborough." A portion of this report was made in these words :

"The dividing line between Scarborough and Falmouth shall be the first dividing branches of Spurwink River, from thence to run up into the country upon a due northwest line eight miles, and the easterly bounds of Falmouth shall extend to the Clapboard Islands, and from thence shall run upon a west line into the country till eight miles be expired."

The name of the town was that of the ancient town in England, standing at the mouth of the River Fal in Cornwall, and hence called Falmouth.

THE PROVINCE OF MAINE.

It will be remembered that Robert Gorges, when he came to meet Christopher Leavett,

claimed that his father was the governor and owner of this land; although afterwards the grant was made to Trelawney and Goodyear. In the year 1668 Massachusetts attempted to take possession of what was afterwards known as the Province of Maine; a lawsuit followed between Massachusetts Colony and the heirs of Sir Ferdinando Gorges, which suit was settled by the king in favor of Gorges.

Later, that is to say in March, 1677, the Colony of Massachusetts purchased from the heirs of Sir Ferdinando Gorges all his right and title to the Province of Maine, for the sum of twelve hundred and fifty pounds sterling.

This gave Maine by decree of the king and the deeds of the purchase, to the Colony of Massachusetts.

In 1674 an order of the Massachusetts Court obliged "every man to take to meeting on Lord's days his arms with him, with at least five charges of power and shot, and whosoever shall shoot off a gun except at an Indian or wolf shall forfeit five shillings."

It was this order which inspired the following lines :

“ So once for fear of Indian beating
Our grandsires bore their guns to meeting ;
Each man equipped on Sunday morn
With psalm-book, shot and powder horn,
And looked, in form, as all must grant,
Like th' ancient true church militant,
Or, fierce, like modern deep divines,
Who fight with quills like porcupines.”

Because of such a command from the Court, we know that the Indians were grievously troubling the settlers, and that by this time the town of Falmouth boasted of many inhabitants. The historian Gould writes :

“ Falmouth, which then included a large territory, was having a thrifty trade in fish, masts, spars, ton-timber, oar-rafters, and sawed lumber, as mills had been built at Capisic, at Long Creek, and at some other places. In the vicinity of each were settled active and enterprising men with families. The Purpooduck side of the harbor, from Simonton's Cove to Stroud-water, was fringed with farms and settlers.

From the mouth of every creek went shallops and fishing-boats, and some had their 'by-landers' or coasting-sloops, carrying cord-wood and fish to the Isles of Shoals and ports beyond. Fishing-ships harbored here, from which they sent out their boats to take and cure the much valued cod for their home cargo.

“ There was also a hamlet at the mouth of the Presumscot River, the principal man of which was Arthur Macworth; and there were scattering settlers along the shore from there westward to Capisic and Stroudwater, where was a landing for the unloading of masts and spars. Here also was a settlement, and another at Long Creek, with a saw-mill. Casco contained at this time about four hundred inhabitants.”

THE FIRST WAR.

Then came the First Indian, or Philip's War, which, as is well known, was begun in 1675. Belknap, the historian, thus explains why the Indians near Falmouth were first aroused to open warfare :

“There dwelt on the River Saco a sachem named Squando, a noted enthusiast, a leader in the devotions of their religion, and one who pretended to a familiar intercourse with the invisible world. These qualifications rendered him a person of the highest dignity, importance, and influence among the eastern Indians. His squaw, passing along the river in a canoe with her infant child, was met by some sailors, who, having heard that the Indian children could swim as naturally as the young of the brutal kind, in a thoughtless and unguarded humor overset the canoe. The child sank, and the mother, instantly diving, fetched it up alive; but the child dying soon after, its death was imputed to the treatment it had received from the seamen, and Squando was so provoked that he conceived a bitter antipathy against the white men, and employed his great art and influence to excite the Indians against them.”

Sewall gives yet another reason for the war; and it is probable that both are correct, the first occurring, as has been stated, on

the River Saco, and the last in what was then regarded as a portion of the town of Falmouth :

“In September the store-houses of Thomas Purchase, a Merrymeeting planter, near the head of New Meadows River, were sacked. Twenty painted savages plundered the liquor, seized the ammunition, ripped up the featherbeds for the sake of the ticking, butchered the calves, and slaughtered the sheep, leaving the females, the only members of the family at home, unmolested, but warned them that ‘other savages were coming who would deal far worse with them.’

“The Indians had taken a great aversion to Purchase, who had amassed considerable wealth, and much of it by hard dealings with the natives in trade, one of whom charged that ‘for the water he had drawn out of Purchase’s well he had paid an hundred pounds !’

“Retaliation followed. A party of twenty-five neighboring planters manned a sloop and

two boats, and at once proceeded to the scene of the recent outrage, by way of Casco Bay and New Meadows River, with a view to gather and secure the growing crops, as well as to reconnoiter. As the party drew near the deserted premises a sound of blows within gave warning of the enemy's presence inside the ransacked buildings. Very soon three savages were seen. The sloop and boats lay moored below; and by a circuitous route the party sought to cut off the savages and intercept their flight to the neighboring thickets by throwing themselves between the enemy and the woods. Perceiving their retreat to the forest to be cut off by the hostile white man's forces, the savages made for their canoes. They were pursued; and the first volley brought one to the ground and wounded a second, who succeeded in gaining his canoe and escaping with his life. The third savage, in the confusion, under cover of the smoke of the blazing fire-arms, gained the shelter of the woods, and reached his comrade, who immediately

formed an ambuscade, while the unwary planters scattered to gather their harvest.

“Busied here and there, reckless of their peril, they gathered the corn and loaded their boat. At this juncture the ambushed savages, with their accustomed yells and whoops of war, rose from their concealment and fired on the scattered workmen. Fortunately some of the company were in a state of readiness for defense; and under cover of their fire the dispersed planters gained the sloop. Several were wounded, but no one was killed. All escaped. But the corn-laden boats became a prey to the Indians, who burned the one and plundered the other.

“Thus worsted in the battle—the first battle of the terrible drama now opened—the settlers fled, and the victorious red men, in small bands, made bold and presumptuous, sought trophies for the tomahawk and the scalping-knife in every direction, at the door of every plantation.”

THE FIRST MASSACRE.

“The first attack in the immediate neighborhood of Falmouth,” as set down by Mr. Gould, “was on the family of Thomas Wakely, who lived on the east side of Presumpscot River below the falls. They killed Wakely and his wife, his eldest son John and his wife, with three of their children, and carried one daughter eleven years old into captivity. After taking all they wanted, the house was consumed.

“Lieutenant George Ingersoll, who had seen the smoke, visited the place the next morning with an armed party to learn the cause, when they came upon a scene too horrible to describe. The daughter was carried by a Saco sachem to Major Waldron of Dover. The Indians went off in a westerly direction.

“They burned several houses in Saco, and afterwards killed several persons at Blue Point. In October they killed the brothers Arthur and Andrew Alger, at Scarborough, and burned their houses.

“About the same time the enemy killed a son of George Ingersoll and another man at Falmouth, and attacked the Jordan settlement at Spurwink. The father, Robert Jordan, left his home and fled, when his house — the one in which George Cleeves formerly lived — was destroyed with all its contents, except what could be taken away by the inmates in haste.”

THE ATTACK ON CASCO NECK.

On the 9th of August, 1676, a well-known Indian named Simon, who had been imprisoned at Dover awaiting his trial on the charge of murder, appeared at the farm-house of Anthony Brackett, and was accused by him of having stolen a cow a few days previous. Simon denied the charge, but promised to bring the culprits to Mr. Brackett's home on the third day. Agreeably to the promise he came, accompanied by five other Indians, and was admitted to the house by Mr. Brackett himself, who had no suspicion that mischief was in-

either to fight the enemy out of our borders that our English corn may be planted whereby we may live comfortably, or remove us out of danger that we may provide for ourselves elsewhere. Desiring your prayers to God for His preservation of us in these times of danger, I rest

“ Your dutiful son,
THADDEUS CLARK.”

THE ISLAND REFUGEES.

At this time the Reverend George Burroughs was preaching on Casco Neck, where was the stockade house known as the Munjoy garrison.

Immediately the alarm was given the minister gathered a portion of his little flock and fled with them for a refuge to the rude fort. The shelter had no more than been reached when Thomas Pike, known as a Purpooducker because of living on that side of Cape Elizabeth which was called Purpooduck, came in at full speed, and gave in breathless haste the following report :

“ The wives of Corbin and Durham, and Atwell’s children, escaped in a canoe, but were pursued and captured. Constable Ross, his

All the settlers near the Purpooduck shore joined Borroughs' company, fleeing to what was then known as James Andrews Island — that land which we now call Cushing's.

To give the details of the wondrously brave defense made there would require too much space. It is perhaps enough to say that the little settlement of Purpooduck was entirely destroyed by the savage foe, and that while the houses were in flames, with the howling fiends exulting in their work of destruction, two lads by name of Wallis, the eldest only fifteen years of age, ventured their lives to save the island refugees.

The children rowed over across the water to gain what the little company on the island sorely needed. A keg of powder was stored in the cellar of John Wallis's home; and this the two lads succeeded in obtaining, but at the cost of the life of one, and the serious wounding of the other.

There may yet be seen, on the north slope of Cushing's Island, the remains of the stone

breastwork thrown up by Mr. Burroughs and the women and children whom he had taken under his charge. A few yards distant from this poor shelter is a spring, where the fugitives must have drawn their supply of water.

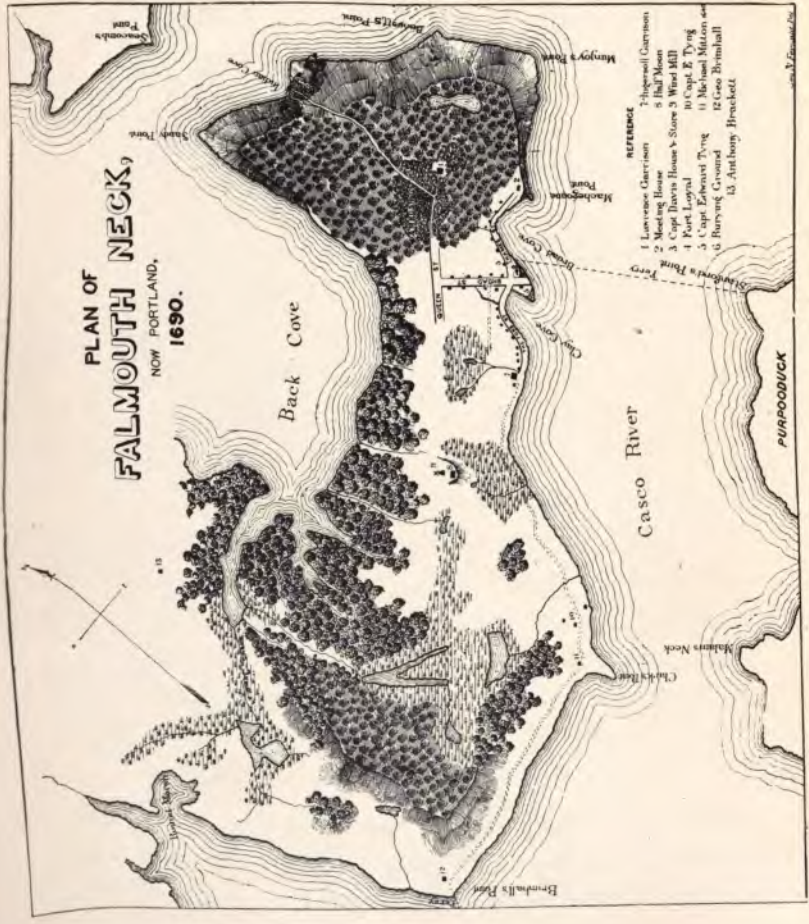
Mr. Gould says: "Below the bank, at the sheltered cove, and on the rocky beach, is an artificial pool, evidently made by throwing out in a circle the small beach stones and pebbles to a considerable depth. The sea-water flows and ebbs through the ridge of stones, making a pool of clearest water.

"It requires no great stretch of the imagination to suppose this to be the inclosure where the imprisoned people in 1676 kept their fish and lobsters alive for use in bad weather. At other times fish could be taken from the rocks at White Head."

ASSISTANCE FROM MASSACHUSETTS.

In response to the appeal made by Thaddeus Clark, Governor Leverett sent fifteen hundred pounds of bread to the afflicted people

PLAN OF
FALMOUTH NECK,
 NOW PORTLAND,
 1690.



- REFERENCE
- 1 Lawrence Garrison
 - 2 Meeting House
 - 3 Capt Rivers House & Store
 - 4 Fort Loyal
 - 5 Capt Edwards Trug
 - 6 Burysing Ground
 - 7 Hopewell Garrison
 - 8 Hall Moon
 - 9 Wind Mill
 - 10 Capt. E. Dyer
 - 11 Abigail Milton
 - 12 Capt. B. Smith
 - 13 Anthony Brackett

of Falmouth; when it arrived the fugitives had been on the island nine days with no other food than berries and fish.

Many of the inhabitants on the shores of the bay fled to Jewell's Island, thinking they would be safe at such a long distance from the mainland. On this island was a stockade, but no regular garrison had been stationed there.

While a portion of the people were out fishing, a party of Indians landed and made a vigorous assault; but the white men defended themselves bravely. The absent ones returning, fought their way into the stockade, and after twenty-four hours had elapsed forced the Indians to beat a retreat.

The Colony of Massachusetts at once sent one hundred and seventy white men and friendly Indians to Falmouth, the force arriving on the twentieth of September; but the enemy had drawn off. Not seeing anything of them, the troops departed for home during the month of October, whereupon the Indians

immediately made a most savage attack on the garrison owned by Henry Josselyn at Black Point.

Master Josselyn was taken prisoner, but his companions succeeded in making their escape.

PEACE.

The First Indian War continued until April, 1678, when, at the request of the Indians, Commissioners were appointed to treat with them.

A meeting was held on the 12th of April at the abandoned settlement on Casco Neck, and a treaty of peace signed, every white man, with the exception of Major Philips of Saco, agreeing to pay to the Indians one peck of corn each year. Because of being a wealthy man, Major Philips was forced to give four times as much as the others.

After the treaty the people of Falmouth returned to their homes, having been absent nearly two years, and once more the little settlement took on the appearance of a village.

The first act of the settlers after returning to their homes was to build on the rocky bluff of Casco Neck, a short distance to the eastward of what is now India Street, a fort, which they named Fort Loyall. It comprised a number of buildings, all formed of rocks, and surrounded by an outer barrier of fence in a palisade form, on which at intervals were wooden towers for defense and observation. Loop-holes cut in these towers and in the outer walls gave its defenders an opportunity of using musketry to advantage upon the assailants. The area of the fort was about half an acre, and in it were mounted eight cannons.

Shortly afterwards four garrisoned houses were built in other parts of the town, intended as places of refuge when should be heard the savage war-whoop of the approaching foe.

One of these was located on Munjoy Hill, near the present Observatory; another stood near the foot of what is now known as Exchange Street; the third was erected on the rocky bluff where stands the Anderson houses on

Free Street; while the location of the fourth is unknown. The garrison house on Munjoy Hill was built of stone, and commanded by Lieutenant Robert Lawrence; the others were probably constructed of logs.

In 1681 the General Court of Massachusetts appointed a committee to inquire into the condition of Fort Loyall, and ascertain what was necessary for its maintenance. The committee reported that there should be no fewer than thirteen men stationed at that post, viz.: a captain, a sergeant, a gunner, and ten private soldiers.

The Court ordered that the fort be maintained at the charge of the Colony, and that the Province pay the wages of six of the soldiers. Six months later it was ordered that the garrison of the fort should be maintained entirely by the inhabitants of the Province, and during the following year a tax was laid upon saw-mills in the vicinity to provide the necessary revenue.

The first Board of Selectmen of Falmouth

consisted of Lieutenant Anthony Brackett, Mr. John Wallis, Lieutenant George Ingersoll, and Ensign Thaddeus Clark.

THE SECOND INDIAN WAR.

Hardly had the settlement been rebuilt and the necessary preparations made for its defense, before the Second Indian War was begun, in 1688.

The people of Falmouth enjoyed only a few years of comparative peace, during the latter portion of which time news came of hostile attacks by small parties of Indians upon the eastern settlements, until it was believed that another war was at hand.

Thinking it wisest to check the Indians before they could organize for serious mischief, the chiefs of the different tribes were called to a conference; but they disregarded the summons, and early in the year 1688, Captain Blackman, at Saco, took as prisoners about twenty savages, among whom were several chiefs, the principal one being Hopegood.

The captives were brought to Fort Loyall and there closely guarded, with the belief that the Indians would meet for a conference in order that the prisoners might be released; but instead of doing so, they began to attack the neighboring settlers, and it seemed certain that another war was close at hand.

Soldiers were sent from Boston; and with them came Councillor Stoughton, who labored earnestly for peace, trusting quite as much to his display of armed men as he did to words.

Then the Governor of Massachusetts Colony took charge of the matter by ordering that the prisoners confined at Fort Loyall be set free, and that those Indians who had broken the peace be sent to Boston for trial.

No attention was paid by the savages to his proclamation; and in November of 1688 the Governor himself marched from Boston at the head of seventeen men, leaving soldiers here and there at each town through which he passed.

At Fort Loyall sixty men were stationed

under Captain George Lockwood, and Governor Andros continued on to Pemaquid.

All these precautions failed of their purpose. The Pemaquid fort was captured by the savages under Baron de Castine, who had taken up arms against the white people because his home at Bagaduce had been stripped of all its valuables — robbed, in fact, when Governor Andros visited that place during the summer of 1688, in the frigate *Rose*.

The capture of Pemaquid fort caused nearly all the settlers to the eastward to flee to Falmouth for protection, and in the beginning of the year 1689 the people realized that it was no longer possible to keep the savages from open warfare.

OLD FALMOUTH.

We have a description of Falmouth as it was at that time, written by one of its inhabitants: —

“It was but a small village, a collection of scattered houses near the foot of what is now

India Street and along the street that led by the sea-side. But little inroad had been made upon the primeval forests, except in the immediate vicinity of the rude habitations which our forefathers had built as homes for themselves and their families.

“The ferry and town-landing was near the foot of the present India Street, whence the adventurous traveler commenced his perilous journey which led him to Spurwink and the scattered settlements farther on.

“Opposite the town landing was the store and dwelling-house of Sylvanus Davis, the principal trader in the town. Near the corner of Fore and India Streets was the only public house, kept by Richard Seacomb, who was duly licensed for that purpose.

“The inhabitants of Falmouth, fearing for their safety, and knowing full well that the fort was but insufficiently garrisoned, petitioned the Massachusetts Colony for relief, but in vain.

“The towns in the immediate vicinity of

Falmouth assumed the responsibility, and garrisoned the fort with more than an hundred men. Captain Simon Willard was appointed commandant by the Massachusetts Colony.

“Unfortunately, however, the Government of Massachusetts decided to protect the eastern frontier settlements by striking a blow at the French possessions in Nova Scotia; and in furtherance of this decision Sir William Phipps sailed from Boston, April 28, 1690, stopping at Casco Bay only sufficiently long to take from Fort Loyall Captain Willard and nearly all his men, leaving the fortification almost wholly unmanned.”

MAJOR BENJAMIN CHURCH.

It was in September of this year, 1689, that Major Benjamin Church of Plymouth, who was noted as a great Indian fighter, received orders to proceed into the Province of Maine to subdue the Indians, and the following is a portion of the written instructions which he received:—

“ You are with all possible speed to take care that the Plymouth forces, both English and Indians, be fixed and ready, and at the first opportunity of wind and weather to go on board such vessels as are provided to transport you and them to Casco, where, if it shall please God you arrive, you are to take under your care and command the companies of Captain N. Hall and Captain S. Willard.

“ We have ordered two men-of-war sloops and other small vessels for transportation to attend you. Your soldiers are to have the benefit of the captives and all lawful plunder, and the reward of eight pounds per head for every fighting Indian slain by them, over and above their stated wages.”

Major Church himself wrote an account of his journey to Falmouth and of the battle which occurred the next day after his arrival; therefore the story of what took place in September, 1689, had best be told in very nearly his own words.

The Governor of the Massachusetts Colony

had received a letter from Joseph Prout of Falmouth, dated the 17th of September, 1689, stating that there were then two hundred Indians gathered on Palmer's Island, now known as Peak's Island, and that these were probably Norridgewock and Canada Indians, who had camped there waiting for the Penobscot tribe.

Thus did the settlers know that an immediate attack would be made.

Major Church says that he embarked his force on board the vessels provided to transport them to Casco, getting under way with a brave gale of wind from the south-west.

At about three o'clock in the afternoon of the 20th of September he arrived within sight of Casco harbor, where he saw two or three small ships lying at anchor. Not knowing whether they were friends or enemies, he gave orders for his men to make ready for a battle; but to keep out of sight as nearly as possible until he should be able to learn who commanded the vessels.

MAJOR CHURCH ARRIVES.

The sloops *Mary* and *Resolution*, both well fitted with guns and men, sailed into the harbor first, and coming near to the vessel lying farthest to seaward, the major hailed her, and received the reply that she was friendly.

Shortly afterwards the crew launched one of their boats and came alongside the sloop *Mary*, when they gave the information that on the day before a very great army of Indians and Frenchmen, who had evidently come on purpose to take Casco fort and the town, had been seen on Palmer's Island.

These visitors also informed Major Church that they had on board their vessel a captive woman brought in by the savages, who was none other than the daughter of Major Waldron, of Piscataqua, and who could give him a full account of the purpose and intention of the enemy.

The major ordered those who had visited him to give his compliments to their captive, and

to tell her he would wait upon her after going ashore to give some orders and directions.

Then the two sloops sailed on until they were come near to the landing-place close by Fort Loyall. The major went ashore, "where were several of the chief men of the town, who met him, being glad that he came so happily to their relief.

"He went to Captain Davis's to get some refreshments, not having eaten a morsel since he came by Boston Castle; and now having inquired into the state of the town found it in poor condition for defense against such a number of enemies.

"He explained the orders and instructions which he had received, gave a list of the forces he brought with him, and promised that the men should all be landed after dark, but not before, lest the enemy be informed as to their number.

"Then he set out in a small boat to visit the vessel he had first hailed on arriving at the harbor, and while thus proceeding came along-

side of each vessel of his fleet in turn, charging the officers to see that the men were ready for immediate action, explaining that the people of the town had good reason to fear the enemy might fall upon them at any moment.

“He still insisted that the soldiers should remain below deck in order to keep secret the strength of their force.

“Having come to the vessel with which he had first spoken, he went on board and met Mrs. Lee, the released captive.

“She informed him that the savages who had brought her to Casco were sufficient in number to fill four score canoes, while there were many others from various tribes which she had not seen; but her captors declared that there were not less than seven hundred men in all.

“Major Church asked her if the Baron de Castine was with the Indians; and Mrs. Lee replied that there were several Frenchmen accompanying the savages, but she could not say if the Baron was among them.

“Having gained all the information Mrs. Lee could give, the major went ashore to view the port and the town, discussing with the chief men as to the best method of defense.

“When night approached, Major Church sent orders for his vessels to come as near the port as was possible, and land the soldiers quietly, commanding that the men go into the fort and houses nearby immediately after coming ashore, in order to be ready at the first alarm.”

PREPARATIONS FOR THE BATTLE.

“Having seen to it that provisions were sent to his men, he went to each company in turn, enjoining upon them the necessity of having everything in readiness for the fight.

“Those who had no powder-horns or shot-bags were to make them immediately from such material as might be most convenient at hand, and the officers were instructed to have their men ready for the march fully an hour before daybreak.

“After giving orders that he be aroused two hours before sunrise, the major went to bed, and was called as he had directed.

“It was yet dark next morning when the troops set forth, accompanied by as many of the town’s people as were able to bear arms.

“The party halted within the edge of the woods about half a mile from the settlement, and sent out scouts, in order to learn the whereabouts of the enemy.

“The major returned to town shortly after sunrise to confer with the leading men as to the best method of protection for the women and children, and also to get for his troops such articles as were most sadly needed.

“Nearly all the Indian allies were without powder-horns or shot-pouches; and he directed the citizens to have bags made like wallets, in one end of which could be put powder, and in the other, shot.

“The Seconet Indians were soon equipped; but the Cape Indians were destitute of nearly everything; they had remained so long at

Boston before embarking that they had sold everything which was of the slightest value, and many of them had no more than a pair of moccasins, a blanket, and a musket.

“Major Church, yet being in town, was about to sit down to breakfast, when an alarm was given that the enemy had begun an attack, and without loss of time the commander, and such soldiers as had accompanied him, started toward the woods.

“They had covered no more than half the distance when they met Captain Brackett’s sons, who told them that their father had been taken prisoner by a great army of Indians who had crept stealthily up into the orchard.

“By this time the friendly Indians who needed bags and horns were fitted, but wanted more ammunition, for they had already fired away the supply first dealt out.

“Presently a messenger came to Major Church from the town, and informed him that the citizens had knocked out the heads of several casks of bullets, but found them

all too big for service, being musket balls, which would not fit their guns.

“It was necessary, so some of the town’s people had sent word, that the major come back at once, otherwise the greater portion of the army would be forced to remain idle for want of suitable ammunition.

“The major ran back at full speed, and ordered that from every vessel be sent ashore all the casks of bullets with which they were laden.

“These being brought, the heads were knocked out, and the contents turned upon the green near the fort, where such of the women and children as were able set about making slugs, by hammering the bullets down to the proper size.”

THE ENGAGEMENT.

“After finding some small bullets, and taking what slugs had been made, together with three knapsacks of powder, the major went immediately towards the army, who by this time was

fighting desperately with the enemy; but on arriving at the river he found the tide at its full, which prevented him from crossing for some time.

“He called out to encourage his men, telling them that he had brought an ample supply of ammunition.

“An Indian, called by the name of Captain Lightfoot, laid down his gun and waded across the river, taking the powder upon his head, and a kettle of bullets in each hand, after which he returned safely to his comrades.

“Now it was that Major Church discovered a large body of men on the same side of the river with himself, and went to learn who they were. He found them to be one company of English, and another of Indians, being in all about four score men, that had not gotten across the river, but lay concealed in a thicket, firing over each other’s heads at the enemy.

“Ordering the men to come together, he shouted for some inhabitant of Casco, and one

by the name of Swarton replied, whereupon Major Church asked him how far it was to the head of the river, or to any place where they might get across.

“Swarton told him there was a bridge about three-quarters of a mile away; and the major called out to the soldiers engaged on the other side of the stream to have courage, for he would soon bring them reinforcements.

“Then ordering the two companies to march in open files, that is to say, each at a distance of five or six paces from the other, that it might appear as if they were an exceeding large force, he enjoined upon them to shout as they marched, with the hope thereby of frightening the foe.

“The enemy could be seen running from the opposite side of the river, where they had been stationed to prevent any one from crossing; and as Major Church’s men approached the bridge they saw on the other side that the enemy had laid logs and stuck birch brush here and there to hide themselves from view.

“The major ordered his company to form in close line, and run at full speed behind him, for he proposed to lead them. After crossing the bridge they were to scatter, so that all might not be shot down, for it was supposed that the enemy would be prepared to receive them.

“In this, however, he was mistaken, for the savages had retreated in great haste.

“The major then ordered the English company to reinforce those who were fighting, while he and the Indian soldiers would march down through the brush, keeping near the river.

“Soon the major with his men came into a section of low ground which had formerly been burned over, the charred brush lying upon it very thickly, and young bushes having grown up in such manner as to render it difficult for the men to force a passage.

“While they were moving slowly along, one of the men called out that the enemy was running westward to get between them and the

bridge; and shortly afterward Major Church saw the savages darting here and there amid the underbrush, chopping with their hatchets, but firing no guns."

A VICTORY.

"Believing the fight was over, he made the best of his way back, lest the enemy should succeed in getting across the bridge into the town, and soon came to the point where he had left six Indians in ambuscade to give notice if the enemy advanced that way.

"On asking those in the ambuscade whether they had seen any Indians, Major Church was told that many were near about; also that large numbers had passed over the head of the river by the cedar swamp, and were running into the Neck toward the town.

"The commander ordered his Indian soldiers to scatter through the thicket that they might better screen themselves from view, and and at the same time be able to discover the enemy.

“On arriving at Lieutenant Clark’s field, which was on the south side of the Neck, the cattle were found to be feeding quietly, and no traces of the enemy could be seen.

“At that moment was heard the reports of several great guns from the settlement, and the commander concluded that the inhabitants were either assaulted, or had seen the savages in force; for he had previously given orders that in case of either of these events the people should discharge their cannon to attract his attention.

“Being a stranger in the country, and not knowing how many paths might lead to the settlement, he concluded that the enemy had gotten into the town by some other way, whereupon he ordered a goodly portion of his force to make all haste toward Fort Loyal.

“Before these were well started some of the settlers came out, stating that the enemy had drawn off an hour previous without having thrown a shot at the fort.

“The major, recalling the men which had

been sent away, now ordered all his force in pursuit of the savages, but was told by the officers, and the men themselves, that all their ammunition had been expended ; that if the Indians had remained a little longer they might have come and knocked the white men on the head, for the settlers' bullets were so large that it was necessary to hammer them into size even during the heat of battle.

“ Major Church ordered his force to get all the wounded and dead men across the river, and to leave none behind ; which was done after the soldiers had procured some canoes.

“ By this time the day was far spent, and the soldiers marched into town about sunset, carrying with them all the wounded and dead, being sensible of God's goodness to them in giving the victory, by causing the enemy to fly with shame, with never so much as a shout of triumph as they drew off.

“ The poor inhabitants rejoiced greatly that the Almighty had favored them so much, declaring that if Major Church with his forces

had not come at that juncture they had all been cut off, and that it was the first time the eastward Indians had ever been put to flight.”

The list submitted by Major Church to the Governor of Massachusetts Colony shows that there were fourteen killed and seven wounded among the defenders of Falmouth; but as to the enemy's loss nothing definite was known, they having carried away the dead as well as the disabled.

MAJOR CHURCH GOES HOME.

Major Church remained encamped with his men near about Falmouth until the approach of winter, when, because of orders from Plymouth, he was obliged to return home.

Mr. York, one of Falmouth's settlers, wrote concerning the major's departure:—

“The poor people, the inhabitants of Casco and places adjacent, when they saw that he was going away from them, lamented sadly, and begged earnestly that he would suffer them to

come away in the transports, saying that if he left them there, in the spring of the year the enemy would come and destroy their families. So by their earnest request the said Major Church promised them that if the government that had now sent him would send him the next spring, he would certainly come with his volunteers and Indians to their relief."

A council of war was held at Falmouth on the 13th of November, 1689, when the following action was decided upon:—

"It is ordered that sixty soldiers be quartered in Falmouth besides the inhabitants, and the soldiers that shall belong to the fort, which shall be fifteen soldiers besides the commander, and the remainder be sent to Boston, to be ready to return according to order, It is ordered that there be a sufficient garrison erected about Mr. Gallison's house for a main court of guard, together with Mr. Robert Lawrence, his garrison, which two garrisons are to be supplied with sixty soldiers, left to guard the said town."

Small squads of men were also stationed at Black Point, Blue Point, Spurwink, Scarborough, and Saco, after which the remainder of the volunteers returned on the transports to Plymouth.

Major Church did not sail with them. He bought a horse, and, in company with Captain Scottow of Scarborough, rode to Boston.

He did not forget the promise he had made the people of Falmouth, but presented to the authorities of Massachusetts a written statement of the condition of affairs in the Province of Maine.

The people of Boston did not give much heed to his requests that volunteers be sent to protect the settlers on and about Casco Bay, perhaps because they were making ready to attack the French at Port Royal in Nova Scotia, and could not well pay any attention to other matters.

SIGNS OF DANGER.

Early in the spring of the year 1690 the French authorities at Quebec formed a plan with Baron de Castine of Penobscot Bay to surprise and capture the garrison of Fort Loyal, in order to destroy Falmouth.

These enemies gathered at some one of the coves or harbors on the east side of Casco Bay, during the month of April, in 1690, and provided themselves with food by stealing cattle from the settlers. No attack was made, however, until the 13th day of May; and we have the story of that disaster from no less an authority than Cotton Mather, who wrote within a few years after the murderous deed had been committed.

Some of the people in Fort Loyall had seen two or three Indians lurking near about a lane which ran straight away from the block-house, and which was fenced on either side. Lieutenant Thaddeus Clark summoned thirty of the young men and went out to learn what might

be going on, not anticipating any very great great danger, however. When they had gone half-way down the lane the men noticed that the cattle stood behind the fence on one side looking in alarm across the way, as if scenting an enemy, instead of going into the woods to feed as usual.

Mr. Mather says: "This mettlesome company then ran up to the fence with an huzza, thinking thereby to discourage the foe if they should be lurking there; but the enemy were so well prepared for them that they answered with a horrible vengeance."

The French and the Indians had formed an ambuscade at this point; and when the soldiers ran up, in what was most likely a reckless fashion, the attack was begun. Lieutenant Clark and thirteen of his party were killed at the first volley; but the remainder, many of them wounded, succeeded in gaining the block-house.

"The enemy then coming into town beset all the garrisons at once, except the fort, which were manfully defended so long as the ammuni-

tion lasted ; but that being spent without prospect of graining more, the defenders quitted all four of the garrisons, and, under cover of night, succeeded in getting into the fort."

DESTRUCTION OF FALMOUTH.

"Upon this the enemy set the town on fire, and bent their whole force against the fort, which had hard by it a deep gully that contributed not a little to the ruin of it, for the besiegers getting into that gully lay below the danger of our guns. Here the enemy began a mine which was carried so near the walls of the fort that the defenders, after fighting five days and four nights, had the greater part of their men killed and wounded, and began a parley with them."

Captain Sylvanus Davis, who was in command of the fort, wrote to the authorities of Massachusetts after he escaped from captivity, the following account of the surrender:

"We, not knowing that there was any French among them, set up a flag of truce in

order for a parley. We demanded if there were any French among them, and if they would give us quarter? They answered that they were Frenchmen, and would give us good quarter. Upon this answer we sent out to them again to know from whence they came, and if they would give us good quarter for our men, women, and children, both wounded and sound? That if we could have liberty to march to the next English town with a guard for our defense, then we would surrender; but we asked that the governor of the French should hold up his hand and swear by the ever-living God that the several articles should be performed. All of which he did solemnly swear; but as soon as they had us in their custody they broke faith, killing or abusing our women and children, carrying away the others into Canada as prisoners. I was among these last. About twenty-four days we were marching through the country for Quebec by land and water, carrying our canoes with us, and arrived at Quebec on the 14th day of June."

The people of Purpoosuck, Spurwink, Black Point, and Blue Point were so disheartened by this destruction of Falmouth, that all, settlers and soldiers, retreated to Wells, about forty miles from the scene of the destruction.

A PLACE OF DESOLATION.

The French and Indians held possession of the shores of Casco Bay until the fall of this year, 1690, when Major Church came from Massachusetts and anchored for a night near the Purpoosuck shore, probably just inside of what is now known as Spring Point.

In his account of this visit, Major Church reports that, the vessels being crowded, he ordered three companies to go on shore, himself and Captain Converse going with them to find lodgings. They soon came upon two barns and a house, which admirably suited their convenience.

At daybreak the enemy attacked the major's forces, and a sharp engagement ensued, with the result that the enemy was driven off, but

at some considerable loss, for Major Church writes: —

“We sent away two vessels with captives which we had ransomed, and the sick and wounded men. We buried our dead, which was three Englishmen and four Indians, while of wounded there were seventeen Englishmen and seven Indians.”

Mr. Gould writes: “It does not appear that Church came up to the ruins of Fort Loyall, but sailed from Spring Point for Boston. The bodies of the slain at Falmouth must have remained where they died; Lieutenant Clark’s and the bodies of the thirteen young men who fell by the fatal ambush could not have been recovered before the fall of the fort, but, like those killed in the town, lay exposed to the wild beasts and birds for two years. There were no white inhabitants east of Wells during that time. Holmes’s Annals says, the killed numbered over one hundred. No more cruel massacre was ever committed by the savages in New England.”

Not until 1692 were the bones of the victims buried; and then it was when Sir William Phipps sailed from Boston for Pemaquid, and on his way "stopped at Casco and buried the bones of the dead people there."

Mr. Gould says: "The war was continued six years after the sacking of Falmouth, but there were no inhabitants in town for the savages to prey upon. Probably vessels occasionally sailed into the harbor, as did Sir William Phipps and Major Church in 1692, or passing vessels took refuge in Hog Island Roads to be safe from a coming storm."

A CLERGYMAN'S EXECUTION.

It will be remembered that, during the attack upon Falmouth by the Indians on August 14, 1676, the clergyman, George Burroughs, saved a portion of his flock by fleeing with them to one of the islands in Casco Bay. In 1692, while old Falmouth was but a deserted ruin, this same clergyman was arrested at Danvers, in the colony of Massachusetts, and

tried for his life at Salem, under an indictment which alleged "that the said Burroughs, late of Falmouth, on the 9th day of May current, and divers days and times before and since at Salem, by certain detestable acts, called witchcraft and sorceries, wickedly and feloniously hath used, practiced and exercised, in and upon one Mary Walcot, of Salem village, singlewoman; by which said wicked acts she is tortured, afflicted, wasted, and tormented, against the peace, and contrary to the form of the statute in such case made and provided."

He pleaded not guilty. At the trial much of the evidence was as follows: One witness said upon oath, "I have seen Burroughs put his finger into the muzzle of a gun and hold it out straight; and though he said an Indian present also did the same, none of us could recollect that an Indian was present, and we supposed the being must have been the blackman or the devil, who looks like an Indian."

Although the evidence was of this extraordinary and incredible character, the jury returned a verdict of guilty; and Judge Sewall, who was one of the justices at the trial, thus writes concerning the terrible scene: —

“ This day George Burroughs, John Willard, John Proctor, Martha Carrier, and John Jacobs were executed at Salem, a very great number of spectators being present. Mr. Cotton Mather was there, also Mr. Sims, Hale, Noyes, Chiever, and others. All of them said they were innocent, Carrier and all. Mr. Mather says they all died by a righteous sentence. Mr. Burroughs, by his speech, prayer, and protestation of innocence, did much move unthinking persons, which occasions their speaking hardly concerning his being executed.”

The good minister was burned at the stake; but, fortunately, he was among the last of those who suffered a shameful death for the so-called crime of witchcraft.

THE NEW SETTLEMENT OF
FALMOUTH.

In 1695 the Massachusetts Colony offered a bounty of "fifty pounds for every Indian woman, or child under fourteen years of age, who should be taken prisoner, and the same sum of money for an older Indian's scalp."

Gould writes regarding the summer of the year 1699:—

"Notwithstanding the naked chimneys, monuments of the catastrophe of eight years previous, and the encroachments of the natural shrubs and bushes on the once fair fields, there were attractions enough to draw many exiles back to the sites of their former homes. As soon as the sachems had put their ugly hieroglyphics to the articles of peace, the broken families began to return; some led by a manly son, some by an energetic mother, who first sought out the common pit where Governor Phipps had buried husbands and fathers, then surveyed with blinding tears the remains of

their once pleasant homes. Some few families returned unbroken, with good courage to begin life anew. The waters, as ever, teemed with fish, and the beaches yielded 'the treasures hid in the sands' for immediate assistance.

"Spurwink, the first place to be settled in the town originally, was also now the first neighborhood to be re-peopled. The energetic Jordans, sons and grandsons of the old minister, were the first to venture. Penhallow says of the war of 1703: 'Spurwink, which was principally inhabited by the Jordans, had no less than twenty-two of that family killed and taken.' Purpooduck Point, where Fort Preble now stands, was next occupied by the Loveitts, Whites, and others, whose descendants yet hold places in the town.

"Then the fugitives began to gather at the mouth of the Presumpscot, and near the lower falls. Old Casco remained desolate, and the Presumpscot settlement was called 'New Casco,' claiming to be the new center of the revived town. In 1700 a fort was erected

near the shore on the eastern side. It was intended for a fortified truck-house in fulfillment of treaty stipulations. The provincial government agreed to maintain trading-houses at certain points, stocked with supplies for the Indians, and to keep an armorer at each of these truck-houses to repair the Indians' guns in exchange for their furs.

“This fortification had no other name than ‘Casco Fort.’”

In 1703, after war between France and England had again broken out, it was feared that the Indians of Maine might be intending to attack the settlers once more. Governor Dudley, of the Massachusetts Colony, invited the chiefs of the different tribes to meet him and the members of the legislatures of Massachusetts and New Hampshire in a conference at Casco in Falmouth, and there the Indians promised to keep peace with the white people.

KING WILLIAM'S WAR.

It was only fifty days after the treaty at Casco when a body of five hundred men, mostly Indians under French leaders, fell once more upon the settlements of Maine, attacking at the same time Wells, Cape Porpoise, Saco, Scarborough, Spurwink, Purpooduck, and Casco.

In Spurwink twenty-two people were killed or taken captives. Purpooduck, which at this time contained nine families, was unprotected by any fortification. When the Indians attacked the settlement there was not a man at home, and twenty-five women and children were butchered, while eight were carried away prisoners.

At the same time, and before those in command of Fort Casco had any knowledge that the enemy was near at hand, three Indians, carrying a flag of truce, came in sight of the garrison. Major March, the officer in charge, suspecting something wrong, went out with

only two men to hold a parley. He had hardly come within striking distance, however, when the Indians made an assault. Two of the three, Phipenny and Kent, were killed outright, and Major March was seriously wounded before being rescued by Sergeant Heek with ten men from the fort.

The garrison was besieged. The Indians destroyed the buildings near about, captured a sloop and two small boats, called shallops, and then made every effort to undermine the fort, as had been done during the last war. The white men held out two days and two nights, bravely resisting every attack; but the mining went on without interruption, and it was soon understood by all that the fort must speedily be captured unless help should be given.

When the defenders of the garrison were on the point of surrendering, Captain Southwick sailed into the harbor in the Massachusetts Galley, a small war vessel. It is needless to add that the savages no longer found pleasure in the siege.

Captain Southwick and his men recaptured the sloop and the shallops, after which an attack was made upon the enemy's fleet of two hundred or more canoes, with the result that the Indians were quickly put to flight.

From this hour the inhabitants of Falmouth had good reason to be on the alert against danger. Messengers from Black Point, York, and Berwick brought tales of murder and destruction.

The only cheering news was the report that a store-ship was about to be sent from Boston for the relief of the garrison at Casco Fort. This vessel did not arrive until the second week of October; as she sailed into the harbor, the Indians, who had remained concealed on the islands or the shores of the bay, opened fire upon her, killing the captain and three men at the first volley, and afterwards wounding two others.

Mr. Williamson thus concludes the story of the attack:—

“The enemy, then retiring to the woods,

were pursued by Major March of Casco fort, at the head of three hundred men, as far as Pegwacket. (Now known as Fryeburg.) At this place he killed six, and made prisoners of six more, the first reprisals in the war, returning laden with considerable plunder. Hence, the legislatures of Massachusetts and New Hampshire were encouraged to offer a bounty of twenty pounds for every Indian prisoner under ten years of age, and twice that sum for every one older, or for his scalp. Moved by so liberal a premium Captain Tyng of Falmouth, and others, made excursions in the depth of winter upon snow-shoes, though without success."

A NEW TREATY OF PEACE.

From this time it would seem as if the Indians had decided to leave the settlement of Falmouth in peace, although for several years they continued their depredations in other portions of the Province of Maine.

In 1707 Major Samuel Moody of Falmouth

was appointed commander of the fort, in the place of Major March, who was given command of an expedition against Port Royal, which expedition left Nantasket, in Massachusetts colony, the 13th day of May, 1707.

During the following August the Indians captured a fishing-vessel which was lying at anchor in Casco harbor, killing three of the crew, and making prisoners of the other two.

Mr. Williamson writes thus regarding the misery of the people in the Province of Maine during this year of 1707:—

“This was a most trying year to the remaining people of this Province. They could not even stir abroad, though well armed, without imminent hazard of their lives. They were under the necessity of crowding their families into garrisoned houses, and tilling only such lands as were situated within call of the sentry boxes. The lumber trade and fishery were wholly at an end; the means of a livelihood were extremely slender, and all anticipations of speedy relief appeared truly desperate, as the

fifth summer had closed without any prospect of peace.”

On the 11th day of July, in the year 1713, at the request of the Indian chiefs, which was presented through Captain Moody of the Casco garrison to the governor of Massachusetts, a conference was held at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, attended by the governor of Massachusetts and twenty councillors on the part of the white men, and the chiefs of nearly all the tribes of savages east of Saco.

Peace was concluded, to the great joy of all the people; for, as Mr. Williamson says, “In this distressing war of ten years Maine lost more than a fourth, perhaps a third, part of her inhabitants. Numbers of them, full of discouragement, left the country to see it no more. Some families had become entirely extinct; and all the others were mourning for friends, either dead or in captivity. The slender habitations of survivors, if not utterly destroyed, had decayed and become miserable. Their outer fields, wholly laid waste or ne-

glected, were overgrown and full of wild shrubbery."

FALMOUTH BECOMES A TOWN.

In 1718 the settlement in and around Casco Bay was incorporated under the name of Falmouth; and on the 10th day of March, in the year 1719, the first town meeting was held.

In the autumn a vessel arrived in the harbor having on board twenty families of emigrants, the descendants of a colony of Scotch Presbyterians who had fled from Argyleshire in Scotland, and settled in the north of Ireland, during the reign of Charles I., to avoid the persecutions of that monarch. They moored their vessel nearly opposite Clark's Point, and remained on the Purpoosuck shore throughout the winter. In the spring most of the emigrants embarked once more, and finally settled in New Hampshire.

By this time the Abenakis Indians had apparently forgotten the treaty of peace, and

became so threatening in behavior that the general Court of Massachusetts sent forty men into Maine to guard the frontiers and watch the motions of the savages. Of these men fifteen were stationed at Falmouth.

Fortunately, such precautions prevented another outbreak of the savages until 1722, when was begun the fourth Indian war, known as the "Three Years'" or "Lovewell's War."

The savages gave less attention to Falmouth than to the surrounding settlements. On the 12th day of July an attack was made upon a garrison house at Casco Neck, when one man was killed. The Indians were speedily driven off, however, and did not again come nearer to Falmouth than Scarborough, where in the meantime they had made several assaults, until the 27th day of May in 1724.

Then it was that on the Purpooduck shore one man was killed and another wounded. On July 17th an attack was made upon the garrison at Spurwink, and Solomon Jordan was killed.

The Reverend Mr. Smith sets down the fact that in 1725 there were "forty-five families in the entire town . . . seventeen at Purpoosuck and Spurwink, most of them poor, and some miserably so. The people of Purpoosuck had a log house which they built partly for a garrison for the families on the point, and partly for a meeting-house, where they assembled every third Sabbath." The log meeting-house and garrison was on the rising ground in the rear of where Fort Preble now stands.

On the 15th of December, 1725, there was signed in Boston, by four sachems of the eastern tribe of Indians and the authorities of Massachusetts colony, a treaty of peace, which is known as "Dummer's Treaty," the most celebrated and lasting of any made with the Indians of Maine.

It was ratified on the 6th day of August, 1762, at a conference held at Falmouth by forty chiefs of the Indians, the lieutenant governors of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, a dele-

gation from the Nova Scotia government, and a great number of colonial officials.

The treaty was called "Dummer's," because Lieutenant Governor Dummer of Massachusetts colony was foremost in bringing the savages to terms.

Shortly after the treaty of peace was signed Mr. Williamson refers to the towns of York and Falmouth as being the largest in the province. He says: "At one time in 1727 thirty vessels were seen in the harbor of Falmouth, besides several standing upon the stocks, and within a preceding twelve months there were enumerated in that town sixty-four families, which in the course of two years increased to one hundred or more. Men were admitted as inhabitants on payment of ten pounds. All the land lying along the water in Purpooduck, and thirty lots on the neck, were surveyed, located, and assigned; a saw and grist mill in the neighborhood were in motion; a meeting-house was finished; and March 8, 1727, Reverend Thomas Smith was settled as clergyman."

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

In the year 1727 it was voted by the inhabitants of Falmouth that "Lieutenant Benjamin Wright shall keep the ferry; and it is understood that the inhabitants on this side (meaning Portland side) the river, as occasion calls for it, shall be carried over to meeting without paying ferriage."

The Purpoosuck people were evidently left to shift for themselves, — pay, swim, or stay at home and be fined for absenting themselves from public worship.

Willis writes: "In June, 1726, Purpoosuck was connected with the First Parish, whose principal place of worship was on the Neck, by an arrangement with the minister (Mr. Smith), who preached there every third Sabbath." John Sawyer was appointed to "take care of the horses belonging to those worshipers on this side the river who sat under Parson Smith's teachings."

One year later, 1727, Mr. Smith writes:



MEETING-HOUSE OF THE FIRST PARISH.--1740-1825.

“Joshua Woodbury settled at Purpooduck, where he built a handsome house and barn, and was a man of great substance.” During the same year a little colony of eight persons settled at Pond Cove, some of them having families. They built a garrison, and agreed to support each other in peace or war.

Regarding public schools Mr. Willis writes: “The earliest notice we have on this subject is from the records, Sept. 15, 1729 (a century after the first settlement), when the selectmen were requested to look for a schoolmaster to prevent the town’s being presented (meaning presented to the Grand Jury for indictment because of neglecting such duties). But it does not appear that a schoolmaster was engaged on that occasion. The first account of the actual employment of one is in 1733, when Robert Bagley was hired to keep by the year, — six months on the Neck, three at Purpooduck, and three on the north side of Back Cove. The next year the schedule was changed, so that he kept two months at Pur-

pooduck and two at Spurwink, with eight months on the Neck.”

The Purpooduck school was held in the garrison house on Spring Point. The seats for the pupils were of the same kind as those used by Parson Smith's congregation, — short lengths of log placed on end, and the desks formed by driving pegs for legs into a disk, or length of tree-trunk, perhaps twenty inches thick. The books were such as had been brought from England; and Master Bagley's heart was filled with joy when he was so well supplied with printed matter that no more than six pupils were forced to use the same book. “School came in at 8 A. M., and continued, with an intermission of half an hour at noon, until 4 P.M. during the winter season, and 5 o'clock when the length of day permitted.” At one time Master Bagley had thirty-nine pupils; and with stout birchen switches, a fresh supply of which was cut each morning by one of the pupils, he flogged the rule of three into the children with such zest that good Mistress

Woodbury solemnly records that "Seth and Josiah were in greivous pain because of Master Bagley's teachings."

In the year 1733 the territory now forming the city of South Portland and town of Cape Elizabeth was incorporated by the general court as a distinct parish.

THE WAR WITH SPAIN.

In the year 1739 the town of Falmouth voted that its representative, Phineas Jones, be instructed to apply to the general court — meaning the legislature of Massachusetts — for the erection of a fort.

In 1741 the general court granted the town of Falmouth four hundred pounds for the building of a fort; and two years later a further grant was made of thirty-three pounds with which to build a breastwork, a platform for guns, and to purchase two half-barrels of powder.

The next year, because of the war between Spain and England, sixty-five soldiers were

sent from Massachusetts to reinforce the garrison at Falmouth.

On the 23d of August, 1745, the provincial government found it necessary to declare war against all the eastern tribes of Indians; and thus was begun a fifth Indian war, resulting chiefly from the war then being waged between England on the one side and France and Spain on the other.

It was on the eleventh day of May, in the year 1745, that Mr. Longfellow, grandfather of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, came to the town of Falmouth, and on the 17th of the same month that he opened a public school.

Although the Indians began the war on the nineteenth day of July, 1745, by attacking the inhabitants of St. George and Damariscotta, blood was not shed in Falmouth until 1746, when "seven of the savages, seeing a company of laborers at work near Long Creek, fired upon them with such effect as to kill two, whom they scalped and stripped of their clothes. They then fell upon the other labor-

ers in the field, when the soldiers from the fort in Falmouth, having been alarmed by the report of the guns, rushed unexpectedly upon and pursued them, until they concealed themselves in the thicket.

“In no war before had the savages appeared more daring and desperate. Approaching Frost’s garrisoned house at Stroudwater, they set about attacking it, but were bravely beaten off before the siege could be begun. So bold were they that on a certain Sunday one Indian ventured into the heart of the village on the Neck to spy out the place, but was seen, fired at, and chased into the woods. These and some other bold acts of the Indians, induced the people without delay to erect another block-house for the common defense.”

SAVAGE ATTACKS.

The Reverend Thomas Smith, who preached the gospel in Falmouth, kept a journal of all the happenings in that settlement, and from

its pages we learn how sadly the people of the village were harassed by the Indians during the year 1746.

On the 10th of April he sets down the fact that ten Indians killed Mr. Bryant and four of his children, and captured Mrs. Bryant and Messrs. Reed and Cloutman, all of Gorhamtown.

In the next entry of his journal he states that Mr. Stephen Longfellow was engaged as schoolmaster for another year at two hundred pounds per annum.

During the month of May there was much sad news brought from the surrounding towns, and on the 6th of June Mr. Smith says that two soldiers were killed by the Indians in Westcoat's field at Long Creek. At the same time Mr. Westcoat's servants and twenty-five soldiers were put to flight by only seven Indians.

Four days later an Indian was seen skulking around Mr. Frost's garrison at Stroudwater, and fired at.

On the 15th of June, Sunday, Mr. Smith says: "An Indian was seen and fired at by N. Crockett near the Causeway, upon which account a great number of our men were absent from meeting pursuing him."

The entry on the following day is as follows: "Our people seem more awakened and alarmed on account of the Indians than ever they have been. It is the same scout of Indians that are still upon our back, and which did the mischief at Gorhamtown. They grow exceeding bold, having no check as yet."

On the day following he sets down: "I was at New Casco at the funeral of Mr. Joseph Sweat, who yesterday afternoon was killed by the Indians near Blanchard's, at North Yarmouth. Merriconeag, we think, was attacked this morning, there being continual firing there."

Under different dates during the same year he writes:

"The Indians came upon Mr. Proctor's folks, and we hear they have killed one."

“Godfrey discovered an Indian in the swamp behind Brackett’s.”

“Philip Greely was killed. Twenty-eight Indians (some say thirty-two) were seen together by Mr. Wier.”

“This afternoon our men were in a scout searching the swamp between Joshua and Anthony Brackett’s for Indians.”

“Two Frenchmen and an Indian fired on Mr. Allen Dover, while he was coming through the bog from Black Point.”

“This afternoon Mr. Stubbs and a soldier with him were killed by the Indians on the back side of his house.”

In April and May of the following year Mr. Smith makes these entries in his journal:—

“We are all in alarm to-day. Everywhere Indians are seen. They captured W. Knights and his two sons at Saccarappa.”

“The Indians one day this week killed Mr. Elliot and his son, and carried away Mr. Murch.”

“The Indians to-day killed Mr. Foster, and

carried away his wife and six children. They killed several cattle. Our folks pursued them, and say there were fifty."

"On this evening Stephen Bailey was fired upon by seven Indians near Long Creek."

"I prayed with a company of young men (twenty-six) who are now going out under the command of Captain Illsley in pursuit of the Indians. May God give them success. A scout of men are now out from North Yarmouth, another going out from Purpooduck. We are in the most distressed circumstances, swarms of Indians being about the frontier, and no soldiers save Captain Jordan's company of fifty men, thirty of whom have been for some time at Topsham, guarding the government timber."

ANOTHER TREATY OF PEACE.

The government of Massachusetts now took certain steps intended to protect the people of Maine. A bounty of forty pounds was offered for every French as well as Indian prisoner,

and thirty-eight pounds for a scalp. The governor of Canada was warned that if the French forces continued the warfare with savages as allies, the cruelties of the Indians would be avenged upon the French inhabitants wherever they could be found.

The condition of the settlers rapidly grew worse, until the 2d day of July, 1748, when the glad news came to Falmouth that the nations at war had agreed upon terms of peace. From that day until the sachems went again to Boston to sue for another treaty, there were but few murders committed in the province during this war. The settlers were in a continual state of alarm, however, until the end of the year 1751, because the Indians seemed ready for mischief, and the French officers made no effort to quiet them.

It is not enough that we should know how those who made homes here in the wilderness protected themselves and their families. We ought also to understand in what way they earned such food and clothing as could not be

produced from the land. Where each man was a farmer, it would hardly be expected that there would be any home market for vegetables or cattle, and yet it was necessary for the settlers to have some money with which to buy sugar, cotton goods, farming tools, books, etc.

Many of the settlers spent a certain portion of their time fishing, and when the fish had been "cured," they were sold to the trading-vessels that came over from England. Others made barrel staves from timber cut on their farms, for which there was a demand in Massachusetts colony and England.

MAST TIMBER.

The hewing of huge trees into masts for ships was another way by which the settlers could earn money, although they were not allowed to do this without express permission from the king's officers.

When the English government granted to the Massachusetts Bay Company a charter, or

permission to settle a certain tract of land, there was in the official papers a restriction in regard to the cutting down of such trees as were large enough, when properly hewn, to form masts. By the terms of this restriction the king claimed for himself and his heirs all trees, the trunks of which were twenty-four inches or more in diameter at a distance of twelve inches from the ground. The people were forbidden to cut down such trees without the royal permission, under a "penalty of forfeiting one hundred pounds sterling for every such tree so felled."

The king appointed an officer, known as "surveyor general of woods," who went through the forest searching for trees large enough to be made into masts or bowsprits, and who cut on each one of the proper size a mark known as "the broad arrow," because it somewhat resembled the barbed head of an arrow, being three cuts through the bark, like the track of a crow.

The settlers could buy permits to cut down

trees so marked; these they sent to England in ships, known as "mast-ships."

In Mr. Gould's history of Portland is the following account of how masts were hewn and shipped:—

"In felling a mast-tree it was necessary to 'bed it,' to prevent its breaking in its fall. This was done by cutting the small growth, and placing the small trees across the hollows so that when the monster pine struck the ground in its fall, there should be no strain on one section more than another to cause a break. The hauling of a mast was an event of much interest to the people within walking distance, and all attended. Masts were hauled on one strong sled out of the woods, winter or summer. A long team of oxen were required for the purpose, and often the hind ones were choked in crossing a hollow, by being hung up in their yoke by those forward. The masts were drawn to the nearest navigable water, and in the spring rolled in and floated to the mast-landing above 'Clark's

Point, where the British government had a 'mast-house' for the hewing of the timber to the proper taper. The measure that fixed the price was taken at the butt-end after the hewing.

"The carrying of masts required the largest ships of the time, — from four to six hundred tons, and some were even larger. Bowsprits and yards were shipped with the masts. A mast one hundred feet long and three feet in diameter required a powerful purchase to draw it on board, and put it in place. The masts were drawn in through a port in the stern of the ship."

THE SIXTH INDIAN WAR.

In 1753 the inhabitants living on the easterly side of the Presumpscot River, within the limits of Falmouth, were set off by a vote of the town to be a separate parish, known as New Casco.

During the year 1754 the "French War" was begun; and, as before, the Indians rose

against the white settlers. It was the sixth Indian war within eighty years, and once more were the people of Falmouth in hourly danger of losing their lives.

Happily, however, the settlement had so increased in size that the savages apparently did not dare to make an attack upon it. From the villages nearby came tidings of the murderous work, but Falmouth was spared the horrors of siege or midnight assaults.

In February of 1760 the Indians begged again that a treaty of peace be made, and once more the people of Maine hoped they had done with war and all its evils.

It was in 1758 that the first church bell was hung, and used to call the people to worship; it was purchased in England, weighed eight hundred pounds, and was imported by Captain Alexander Ross. In this same year a certain number of good men were elected "to keep the boys quiet during meeting time."

At this time, even though the settlement had grown into a town, but few people had

clocks in their houses. All, however, had a certain mark in the window, where a shadow would be cast exactly at the meridian; but it was of no use at any other hour. Sun-dials were another means resorted to for marking the time; but these were useless when the sun was obscured.

In those days there were also no stoves in the meeting-houses. A tin box inclosed in a wooden frame, within which was a sheet-iron pan filled with live coals, was used during the long service time to warm the feet of the women and girls of the family. These were filled from the open fire-place at home, and carried by a boy, or supplied with fuel from some house nearby.

In the year 1764 the population of Falmouth numbered 3,770, composing 585 families, and occupying 460 houses.

In 1765 the fourth parish, known as Stroudwater, was set off from the limits of Falmouth and incorporated.

An act of Massachusetts general court, No-

vember 1, 1765, incorporated Cape Elizabeth as the Second District of Falmouth. At the second town-meeting in the new town it was voted that the minister's salary be fixed at eighty pounds, and that forty pounds be set aside for the support of the school. "That Loring Cushing be the schoolmaster for this district until March ensuing, and that said school be moved by the selectmen into three different places of said district, as they think proper, and the time apportioned according to the money voted."

THE STAMP ACT.

The news of the passage of the Stamp Act aroused the greatest indignation in Falmouth, as it did in other settlements throughout the colonies; and on January 8th, of the year 1766, when a brig arrived from Halifax with the stamped papers for Cumberland County, a mob surrounded the custom house, demanding that the paper be given up to them.

The people had assembled in such numbers

that the officers could do no less than comply with their demands; and when the stamped paper had been delivered over to the leaders of the mob, it was carried through the town at the top of a pole, to a bonfire especially prepared for the occasion, where it was publicly burned.

On the 16th of May in the same year, when the news came that the Stamp Act had been repealed, it was as if the people of Falmouth had suddenly grown wild with joy. The Boston Evening Post of June 2d, 1766, in giving an account of what occurred at Falmouth at this time, states: "The morning following the arrival of the express was ushered in with every demonstration of loyalty and joy; such as ringing of bells, firing of cannon at the fort and on board the shipping in the harbor. In the evening the houses of the town were beautifully illuminated, fireworks played off, bonfires erected, etc., — the whole conducted with so much ordering and decorum that it did great honor to the town."

Mr. Gould gives the following account of how the good people of Falmouth evaded the sugar act:—

“On the 7th of August, 1767, the collector of Falmouth seized a quantity of rum and sugar, belonging to Enoch Illsley, for breach of the revenue act. In the evening a mob attacked the house of the comptroller, Arthur Savage, where the Casco Bank now is. The collector, Francis Webb, was in the house at the time, and him they prevented from leaving the house until another party broke into the custom house on India Street, and removed the goods to secret places of safety.

“Governor Bernard issued a proclamation offering a reward of fifty pounds for the discovery of any person engaged in the removal of the goods from the custom-house.”

THE PORT BILL.

The British Parliament passed a statute declaring the Port of Boston closed to all trade after the first day of June in the year 1774.

When this was made known, the people of Falmouth assembled in town-meeting and declared it as the undivided opinion of the inhabitants of the town "that neither the parliament of Great Britain, nor any other power on earth, has a right to lay a tax on us without our consent, or the consent of those whom we choose to represent us." They declared among other things "We have weighed the subject fully and fairly, and we feel constrained by the sacred obligations of patriotism and self-preservation, and the tender ties of filial affection, to join our brethren of the several towns on the continent, in opposing the operation of despotic measures. The dictates of nature, of reason, and of conscience, admonish and urge us to the support of freedom; for upon this all our political happiness must depend. Our cause is just, and we trust in God; if we do our duty, He will enable us to transmit to our children that Sacred Freedom, which we have inherited from our fathers—the purchase and earnest of their purest blood."

They closed their meeting with these resolutions, — “To make no use of India teas till the duty shall be repealed; To support our brethren in Boston at all times, in defense of our country’s rights and liberties; To withhold licenses from all inn-holders and retailers who may presume to buy or sell tea; To have a standing committee of correspondence, as in other towns, throughout the Province.”

On the 14th of June in the same year, the bell in the First Church of Falmouth was tolled from sunrise until nine o’clock in the evening in token of sympathy with the inhabitants of Boston, because of the closing of the port; and the people of the town sent to the people of Boston a letter in which they stated:

“We look upon you as sufferers for the common cause of American liberty. We highly appreciate your courage to endure privation and distress — sensibly aware that the season puts to severest trial the virtues of magnanimity, patience, and fortitude, which your example will honorably exemplify. We beg leave to

tender you all the encouragements which the considerations of friendship and respect can inspire, and all the assurances of succor which full hearts and feeble abilities can render.”

Gould says of this period: “In 1774 the people of Falmouth . . . applied to Captain Moses Pearson for his two great guns to be placed on Spring Point . . . and this was the first attempt to fortify the point which commands the entrance to the harbor. These two guns Captain Pearson had taken as part of his share of plunder at Louisbourg, and brought them home. He knew how to mount them in battery, and handle them when mounted. It is probable that the town-meeting understood that the borrowing of the guns included their owner.”

In January, 1775, Falmouth sent as her contribution to the suffering town of Boston fifty-one cords of wood, and in the following March thirty-one cords more, while Cape Elizabeth sent forty-four cords.

THE TORY COULSON.

Taken by itself there would be no good reason why any particular mention should be made of Thomas Coulson, a citizen of Falmouth, save to say that he was a Tory. But because of the fact that Coulson summoned the English vessel of war which afterward bombarded the defenseless town, it has been said that all the succeeding train of evils might be, in a certain degree, chargeable to him.

On March 2d, 1775, a vessel sailed into the harbor from England, having on board the rigging, sails, and stores for a new ship which had been built by Thomas Coulson. As soon as she had come to an anchor the Committee of Safety and Inspection met, and summoned before them the captain of the vessel and Mr. Coulson.

In order to make plain that which follows, it must be stated here that during the second session of Congress in Philadelphia, on the

4th day of September, 1774, a Declaration of Rights was agreed upon, in which the colonists set forth their grievances against the king, and recommended that the people of North America should not import goods from England, nor purchase any which had been so imported.

In each of the provinces a Committee had been appointed to see to it that these recommendations of Congress were carried out, and therefore it was the Committee of Falmouth summoned Mr. Coulson before them. He could do no less than admit that he had imported from England the rigging and stores for his ship; and the Committee promptly decided that they should be returned to England, that the supplies could not be landed at the port of Falmouth.

Mr. Coulson and the captain insisted that the vessel could not make the return voyage without undergoing certain repairs, and that before any work could be done upon her she must be unloaded.

The Committee refused to allow Coulson to take anything from the vessel, which remained at anchor in the harbor more than four weeks, during which time, so it was claimed, Mr. Coulson sent to Massachusetts Bay for one of the king's ships to aid him in gaining what he claimed were his rights.

The sloop of war *Canseau*, commanded by Captain Mowatt, arrived in the harbor. Under cover of her guns the cargo was taken from the English vessel, and transferred to the hull of Mr. Coulson's new ship.

While this was being done news arrived of the battle of Lexington, a messenger coming into the town on the 21st of April, 1775. Without delay a company of sixty soldiers under Captain David Braddish was at once dispatched for Cambridge. On the 23d a town-meeting was called, and although the king's vessel lay in the harbor, the citizens gave free rein to their sentiments.

THE SEIZURE OF CAPTAIN MOWATT.

Among the most ardent of the Whigs, as the patriots were called to distinguish them from the Tories, says Mr. Williamson, was Samuel Thompson of Brunswick, a lieutenant-colonel of the militia, and a member of the Provincial Congress. Although bold, and ardently devoted to the cause, he was not a man fitted by nature to take command of a difficult or dangerous enterprise.

Having learned that Captain Mowatt was in Falmouth harbor, Colonel Thompson conceived the idea of taking him prisoner, and resolved that the work should be done without the knowledge of the Falmouth people.

Mr. William Gould thus tells the story : —

“On Tuesday, the 9th of May, Colonel Samuel Thompson of Brunswick, with about fifty soldiers, came in boats and landed secretly on the north side of the neck, encamping in a grove of pines. Each man had a small sprig of spruce in his hat, and a spruce tree with

the lower branches cut off was their standard. They seized and detained several persons who happened to pass that way, in order to conceal their camp from the townspeople. About one o'clock in the afternoon Captain Mowatt, his surgeon, and the Reverend Mr. Wiswell of St. Paul's Church, were walking for pleasure in the vicinity, when they were seized and made prisoners.

“As soon as Lieutenant Hogg, then in command of the Canseau, heard of the capture of Captain Mowatt, he sent a threatening letter on shore. General Preble, in a communication to the Provincial Congress, dated on the 14th, says, ‘He clapped springs to his cables, and swore if the gentlemen were not released before six o'clock he would fire on the town. He discharged two cannon; and although there were no shot in them, it frightened the women and children to such a degree that some crawled under the wharves, some down cellar, and some ran out of town.’

“Several of the prominent men of the town

visited Thompson's camp to urge the release of the prisoners. Thompson and his men were inflexible; but, night coming on, they concluded to march the captives to Marston's tavern for a more sheltered consultation. The soldiers, including a Falmouth company which had assisted in the escort, were paraded in front of the house.

“Thompson argued that open hostilities between the colonies and the mother country existed; that Providence had thrown the prisoners in his way, and that they were rightly held. He finally found that the whole town was against him; and at about nine o'clock he concluded to release them, by their giving paroles to come on shore next morning, General Preble and Colonel Freeman pledging themselves for the faithful performance of the undertakings. The principal reason given by the Falmouth men for urging the release of the prisoners, was that several vessels were daily expected with corn and flour, of which the town stood very much in need, and these

cargoes could not be unloaded while the English vessel remained in the harbor."

ESCAPE OF THE PRISONERS.

"At the appointed hour of nine, on Wednesday morning, Thompson began to look for his prisoners, but none came; whereupon his men became furious and seized their sureties, Preble and Freeman, and kept them all day without dinner.

"In the afternoon they sent to Mowatt to know why he did not keep his parole. His reply was that one of his men, whom he had sent on shore to his washerwoman, had overheard several threats from soldiers to shoot him as soon as he made his appearance, and he declined coming.

"During the afternoon a large force of militia from the country, numbering five or six hundred, arrived and, being greatly enraged on hearing of Mowatt's release, threatened violence to General Preble and Colonel Freeman, the sureties.

“All the officers of the militia, including those of Falmouth, next resolved themselves into a board of war, for the examination of Tories, and summoned several persons before them. Some came. The Reverend Mr. Wiswell had not gone on board the ship, and attended at the appointed time. In answer to questions, he declared his abhorrence of the doctrine of passive obedience and non-resistance, and was released. Several others were examined, but none were punished.

“To keep peace and secure his release as well as Colonel’s Freeman’s, General Preble was obliged to furnish the troops with several barrels of bread, a quantity of cheese, and two barrels of rum for each company.

“The soldiers entered Captain Coulson’s house, took what they wanted, and used the house for a barrack. Some of them became excited by the liquor found in Coulson’s cellar; and one, named Calvin Lombard, went down to the shore and fired two balls from a musket, deep into the side of the Canseau. The fire

was returned from a 'fusee,' but no damage was done.

"Thursday, the 11th, was a general fast which General Preble and Colonel Freeman were not prepared for, as the soldiers had obliged them to fast the day before.

"The soldiers seized one of Coulson's boats, and dragged it through the streets to a place of safety; and the next day they seized one of Mowatt's, and hauled it to the same place. Mowatt threatened to fire on the town if they were not returned; but one of the citizens wrote on the day following to a friend at Watertown, 'He has not fired yet; and here I sit writing at my desk in the old place, being fully convinced that Mowatt never will open fire on the town in any case whatever.' He also wrote, 'The soldiers have to-day carried off Mr. Tyng's Bishop, a piece of plate worth five hundred pounds (old tenor), and his laced hat.'

HOSTILITIES SUSPENDED.

“ On Friday afternoon the last of the country soldiers left town, much to the relief of the people. On Saturday Mowatt made another demand for the boats, but Thompson’s men had taken them away when they left. On Monday Mowatt and Coulson sailed with their ships for Portsmouth and Boston.

“ On the 8th of June the Senegal of sixteen guns, Captain Duddington, arrived from Boston, and anchored near the islands. On the 12th Coulson arrived again in his new ship, and anchored near the Senegal. Sheriff Tyng, who had taken refuge with his friends in Boston, was with Coulson.

“ In reply to a letter, Captain Duddington of the Senegal wrote to the committee that ‘his orders were to protect the persons and property of his Majesty’s faithful subjects, and not to distress them.’

“ The wives of Sheriff Tyng and Captain Coulson were permitted to go on board the

ships; but the committee would not consent that Coulson should have his masts with which he intended to load his ship, as he was a declared enemy of the town. On his arrival the people had floated them up the harbor out of his reach, the Provincial Congress having passed a resolve to prevent Tories from taking their property out of the country.

“Coulson next sent an armed boat to the mouth of the Presumpscot River, ostensibly for water, but in reality to look out masts and timber for a cargo. The people seized his boat, guns, and men, but finally released the latter. Coulson, finding he could not get his masts, and was losing his boats, sailed without them.

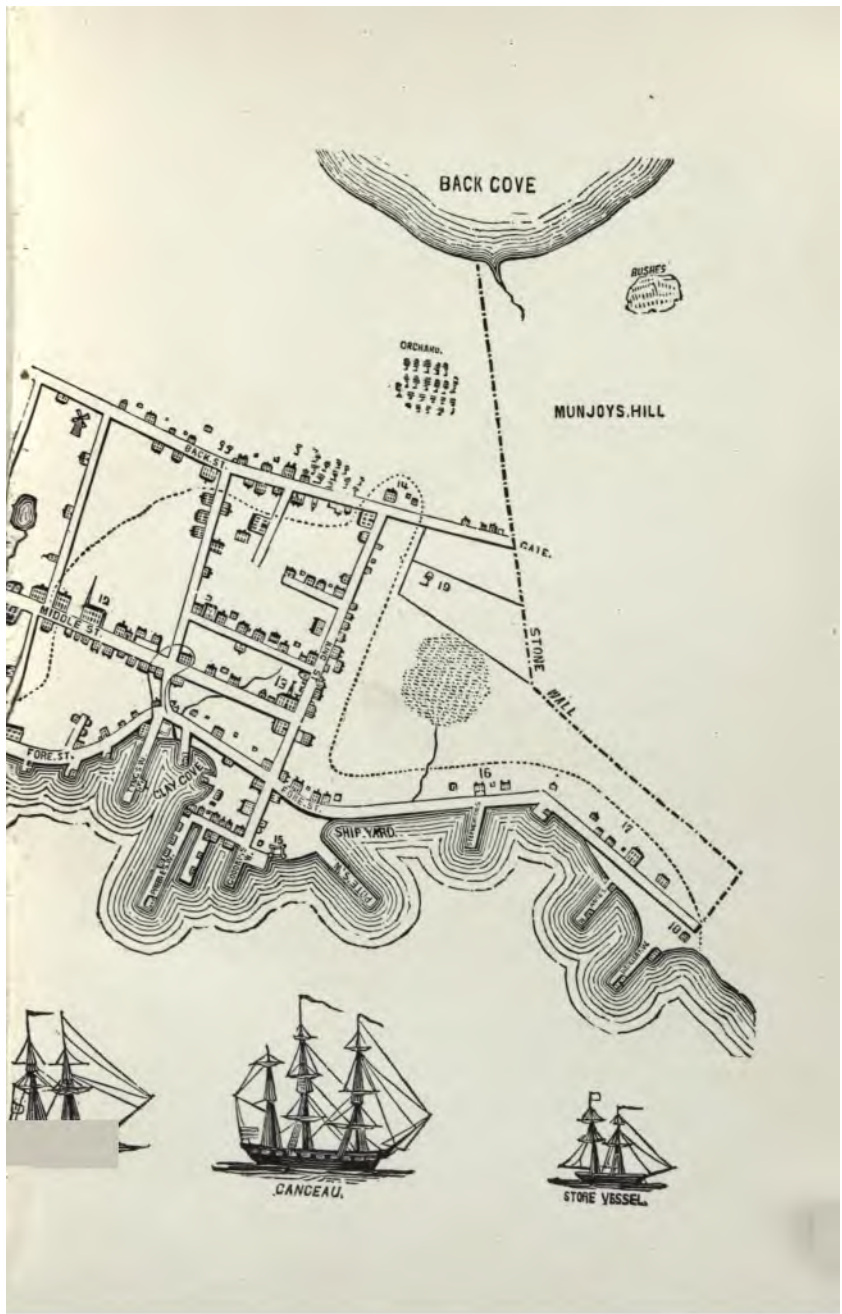
“These masts were secured in a cove at Cape Elizabeth, near Vaughan’s bridge, where they remained over sixty years. All left of them in 1835 were built into Sawyer’s wharf, at the foot of High Street, and they are now covered by Commercial Street.”

MOWATT'S REVENGE.

Volunteers were called for throughout the Province of Maine, and the greater number of those who responded to the call were at once sent to Cambridge, in Massachusetts, where was established the American camp. A certain proportion, however, were stationed on the sea-coast in the counties of Cumberland and Lincoln, under command of Colonel Freeman of Falmouth.

On the 16th of October a squadron of four armed vessels arrived in the harbor under command of Captain Mowatt, — the *Canseau*, the *Cat*, a ship-of-war, a large cutter-schooner, and a small bomb-sloop.

When it was learned who commanded the fleet, the people believed Captain Mowatt had come to take from the islands a supply of cattle, sheep, and hay; therefore all the soldiers were sent by boats down the harbor to prevent, if possible, the plunder, and thus was the town left without defenders.





On the following day, the wind being contrary, the squadron was towed up toward the wharves, and about four o'clock in the afternoon moored as follows: the Canseau, sixteen guns; the flag-ship, anchored off the foot of India Street; above her the schooner, twelve guns; off where is now Union Wharf, the ship Cat, twenty guns; and above them all lay the bomb-sloop.

Immediately the squadron had come to an anchor, Mowatt sent ashore a messenger with a letter to the authorities of the town, in which he stated that he had been sent there to punish the people for their rebellion, and ordered them to remove out of town within two hours.

The citizens were astounded; a meeting was hastily called, and a committee of three sent on board the Canseau to learn the cause of the threatening letter.

Captain Mowatt replied that he had received orders from Admiral Graves to destroy the town and sink all ships without giving

the people warning, and that he had so far disobeyed as to send the letter ashore, perhaps at risk of losing his commission.

The committee urged him not to execute such cruel orders until they could appeal to Admiral Graves.

Mowatt told them that the only terms by which he would consent to spare the town for a time was, that they deliver before eight o'clock on the following morning, four cannon, together with all the small arms and ammunition. When these had been sent on board his vessel, the town should be safe until he again heard from the admiral, or, said he, "deliver me eight stands of small arms immediately, and you will not be molested until eight o'clock to-morrow morning."

THE BOMBARDMENT.

The terms were humiliating, yet to gain time the town sent him the eight stands of arms. But few of the people were inclined to do more, and "to the inhabitants the night

was sleepless and distressing. Many left the town, and all made the best preparations in their power to meet or avoid the hard destiny. Another town-meeting was held about daylight in the morning, when it was voted not to comply with Mowatt's terms.

“Once more the committee went on board the Canseau, urging Mowatt to delay the work of destruction at least for a short period.

“‘I will give you,’ said the tyrant, ‘thirty minutes and no more.’

“About nine o'clock the same morning, the firing was opened from all the vessels; and, being urged with great briskness, a horrible shower of cannon balls from three to nine pounds weight, carcasses, bombs, live shells, grape-shot, and even bullets from small arms, were thrown upon the compact part of the town, — which was much exposed and injured by reason of its inclined situation towards the harbor. Armed parties, under cover of the guns, set fire to the buildings; and, though some of them were saved by the watchfulness

and courage of the inhabitants, many were shortly blazing in several parts of the village.

“The cannonading was continued between eight and nine hours, and the conflagration was general. St. Paul’s Church, the new court-house the town-house, the public library, the fire-engine, about one hundred and thirty dwellings, two hundred and thirty stores and warehouses, and a great number of stables and outhouses were all, in a short time, reduced to ashes. Two vessels only escaped the flames, to be carried away by the enemy. Endeavors were made to save the houses of the Tories, which were in a few instances not without success. Mowatt, when he had accomplished this cruel work, departed.”

Mr. Gould writes: “The facts about the fortifications or batteries constructed immediately after the burning must be gleaned from scanty sources. Dr. Deane records: ‘Nov. 1, 1775. A ship appeared in the offing; arrived at evening; the Cerebus; he sent a letter on shore.’ Judge Freeman in an account of the

war, in his notes to Smith's journal, says: 'The purport of the letter was to forbid the people from constructing batteries or breast-works, which was wholly disregarded; the arrival of this vessel was a signal to summon the militia, who came in large numbers from the neighboring towns and occupied the best of the remaining houses.'

"Sullivan, in his history, says: 'Captain Symonds came into the harbor (of Falmouth) with a ship of more force than all those which had destroyed it. An express was sent to the other towns, and a number of volunteers went to the assistance of the remains of Falmouth, and joined the people there. When they arrived, the captain of the ship sent on shore to forbid their throwing up any works; they, however, proceeded, and prepared the materials for a battery, and fitted two six-pounders, which were all the artillery they had. On seeing that they were determined to attack the ship with such means as they could command, the captain forgot his threatening, and went

out of the harbor as soon as he could get away.”

DEFENDING THE HARBOR.

In the winter months of 1776 a fort was erected on Spring Point, and guns were mounted where Portland Head light stands, as may be seen by the two regimental orders following :

“January 14th, 1776. To Captain Bryant Morton : Your commission gives you the command at Cape Elizabeth. You will take your post forthwith, and keep such guards on the sea coast as the number of men under your command will admit of, agreeable to the general court's orders—on the approach of an enemy to fire an alarm with three guns on Spring Point. See that your men are at their barracks at nine o'clock in the evening, and at roll call, and obey such orders as may be given from time to time by the officer in command.

“DANIEL ILLSLEY, *Commanding Officer.*”

“Falmouth, May 7th, 1776. General orders for Captain Bryant Morton's company at Cape Elizabeth : That you keep one sergeant or corporal, with seven privates, as a guard on Portland Point—on the discovery of a ship to fire a gun on Portland Point as an alarm, and in case of any number of small vessels more than two, and large enough for armed vessels, to

fire two guns at Spring Point, and in case they prove to be enemies, to use your best endeavors to annoy them.

“ JONATHAN MITCHELL, *Commanding Officer.*”

It was as if the people of the settlement had already suffered from warfare as much as necessary; for after the destruction of Falmouth they remained unmolested, but at all times furnished their full share of recruits for the Continental Army. In fact, Brigadier Preble wrote from Boston in 1778 to Captain John Waite: “ The province of Maine, and the town of Falmouth in particular, are highly applauded by the general court for being foremost of any part in this State in furnishing their quota of men for the army.”

In 1779, when what is known as the Bagaduce Expedition was formed, Falmouth and Cape Elizabeth each contributed a company of soldiers.

The Reverend Mr. Smith noted the fact by writing in his journal: “ People are everywhere in this State spiritedly appearing in the in-

tended expedition to Penobscot in pursuit of the British fleet and army there."

In 1785, on New Year's Day, appeared the first newspaper of the province, the "Falmouth Gazette," printed by Thomas B. Waite.

PORTLAND INCORPORATED.

On July 4, 1786, Falmouth was divided, and the peninsula, with several islands opposite, was incorporated into a town by the name of Portland.

The bounds of the new town were thus defined: "To begin at the middle of the creek that runs into Round Marsh; thence north-east to Back Cove creek; thence down the middle of the creek to Back Cove, then across said cove to Sandy Point; thence round by Casco Bay and Fore River to the first bounds. Together with all the islands that now belong to the First Parish in said Falmouth."

Here properly ends the story of Old Falmouth; for that tract of land which is described in the records of the Massachusetts Colony as

running from the "first branches of the Spurrink River eight miles into the country," etc., was on this fourth day of July, in the year 1786, divided for the third time, and has since been subdivided, until to-day it comprises a cluster of fair cities, the individual history of which from that day should claim your careful study and remembrance.

THE END.